





# NORTH CAROLINA TRADEMARK LAW

(Chapter 77, Consolidated Statutes)

## ART. 1. TRADEMARKS.

**3971. Adoption and filing for registry.**—It shall be lawful for any person to adopt for his protection and file for registry, as in this chapter provided, any label, trademark, term or design that has been used or is intended to be used for the purpose of designating, making known or distinguishing any goods, wares, merchandise or products of labor that have been or may be wholly or partly made, manufactured, produced, prepared, packed or put on sale by any such person, or to or upon which any work or labor has been applied or expended by any such person, or by any member of any corporation that has adopted and filed for registry any such label, trademark, term or design as aforesaid, or announcing or indicating that the same have been made in whole or in part by any such person or corporation, or by any member thereof.

**3972. Property rights protected by filing for registry.**—Whenever any person shall adopt and file for registry any label, trademark, term or design pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, the property, privileges, rights, remedies and interests in and to any such label, trademark, term or design, and in and to the use of same, provided or given by this chapter to, or otherwise conferred upon or enjoyed by, the person filing the same for the registry, shall be fully and completely secured, preserved and protected as the property of those entitled to the same before any such label, trademark, term or design has been actually applied to any goods, wares, merchandise, or product of labor, and put upon the market for sale or otherwise, and before any use or appropriation of any such label, trademark, term or design has been made in connection with any such goods, wares, merchandise or product of labor, as well as after the same has been used or applied to designate, make known or distinguish any such goods, wares, merchandise, or product of labor and they have been put upon the market.

**3973. Filing to be with secretary of state; contents of affidavits; fees.**—Any person who has heretofore adopted and used, or shall hereafter adopt and use any label, trademark, term or design, as in this chapter provided, may file the same for registry in the office of the secretary of state, by leaving two copies, facsimiles or counterparts thereof, with the said secretary, and filing therewith a statement in the form of an affidavit, subscribed and sworn to by any such person, or by any officer, agent or attorney, if a corporation, specifying the person by whom any such label, trademark, term or design is filed, and the class or character of the goods, wares, merchandise or products of labor to which the same has been or is intended to be appropriated or applied, and that the person so filing the same has the right to the use of the said label, trade-mark, term or design,

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and that no other person, firm or corporation has the right to such use, either in the identical form or in any such near resemblance thereto as may be calculated to deceive, without the permission or authority of the person filing the same, and that the copies, facsimiles or counterparts filed therewith are true and correct copies, facsimiles or counterparts of the genuine label, trademark, term or design of the person filing the same; and there shall be paid for such registry a fee of five dollars to the secretary of state for the use of the state, and the same recording fees required by law for recording certificate of organization of corporations.

(Registry and recording fees for each trademark, \$7.10.)

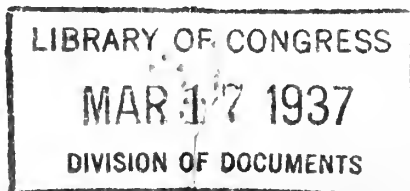
**3974. Registration; certified copies evidence; fees.**—The Secretary of State, upon the filing of any such label, trademark, term or design that is not in conflict with section 3976, shall register the same, and shall deliver to the person filing the same as many certified copies thereof, with his certificate of such registry, as any such person may request, and for every such copy and certificate there shall be paid to the secretary of state, for the use of the state, a fee of one dollar; and any such certified copy and certificate shall be admissible in evidence and competent and sufficient proof of the adoption, filing and registry of any such label, trademark, term or design, by any such person in any action or judicial proceeding in any of the courts of this state, and of due compliance with the provisions of this chapter.

**3975. Transfer of trademarks.**—The right to use any registered label, trademark, term or design shall be granted only by an instrument in writing, duly filed in the office of the secretary of state. The fees for recording or filing such transfer and issuing copies thereof shall be the same as for filing such label, trademark, term or design.

**3976. Similar trademarks refused registration.**—It shall not be lawful for the secretary of state to register for any person any label, trademark, term or design that is in the identical form of any other label, trademark, term or design theretofore filed by any other person, or that bears any such near resemblance thereto as may be calculated to deceive, or that would be liable to be mistaken therefor.

**3977. Fraudulent registration; penalty.**—Any person who shall file or procure the filing and registry of any label, trademark, term or design in the office of the secretary of state under the provisions of this chapter, by making any false or fraudulent representations or declarations, with fraudulent intent, shall be liable to pay any damages sustained in consequence of any such registry, to be recovered by or in behalf of the party injured thereby.

**3978. Use of counterfeit trademarks unlawful.**—Whenever any person has adopted and filed for registry any label, trademark, term or design, as provided by law, and the same shall have been registered pursuant to law, it shall be unlawful for any other person to manufacture, use, sell, offer for sale, or in any way utter or circulate any counterfeit or imitation of any such label, trademark, term or design, or have in possession, with the intent that the same shall be sold or disposed of, any goods, wares, merchandise, or product of labor to which or on which any counterfeit or imitation of any such label, trademark, term or design is attached, affixed,



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printed, stamped, impressed or displayed, or to sell or dispose of, or offer to sell or dispose of, or have in possession with intent that the same shall be sold or disposed of, any goods, wares, merchandise, or product of labor contained in any box, case, can or package to which or on which any such counterfeit or imitation is attached, affixed, printed, stamped, impressed or displayed.

**3979. Unauthorized use unlawful; use under license.**—Wherever any person has adopted and registered any label, trademark, term or design, as provided by law, it shall be unlawful for any other person to make any use, sale, offer for sale or display of the genuine label, trademark, term or design of any such person filing the same, or to have any such genuine label, trademark, term or design in possession with intent that the same shall be used, sold, offered for sale, or displayed, or that the same shall be applied, attached or displayed in any manner whatever to or on any goods, wares or merchandise, or to sell, offer to sell, or dispose of, or have in possession with intent that the same shall be sold or disposed of, any goods, wares or merchandise in any box, case, can or package to or on which any such genuine label, trademark, term or design of any such person is attached, affixed, or displayed, or to make any use whatever of any such genuine label, trademark, term or design, without first obtaining in every such case the license of the person adopting, filing and registering the same; and any such license may be revoked and terminated at any time upon notice, and thereafter any use thereof shall be unlawful.

**3980. Remedies; damages; profits; destruction of counterfeits.**—Any person who has registered any label, trademark, term or design under the provisions of this chapter shall have a right of action against any person for the unauthorized use of such label, trademark, term or design, and the courts shall by appropriate remedies prevent the unauthorized or unlawful use, manufacture or display of any label, trademark, term or design, or the imitation or counterfeit thereof, or the sale, disposal or display of any articles of property on which any counterfeit or imitation of any registered label, trademark, term or design, or on which any genuine label, trademark, term or design may be used or displayed without proper authority; and shall further secure and protect all persons in all rights of property and interest which they may have in any label, trademark, term or design registered under this chapter; and the court shall award to the plaintiff any and all damages resulting from any such wrongful use of any such label, trademark, term or design; and any counterfeit or imitation of any labels, trademarks, terms or designs, and any die, engraving, mould or mechanical device or the manufacture of the same in the possession or under the control of the defendant, shall be delivered up to an officer of the court, to be destroyed, and any such genuine labels, trademarks, terms or designs in the possession or under the control of any such defendant shall be delivered to the plaintiff.

**3981. Concurrent action for penalty.**—In addition to any other rights, remedies or penalties provided by this chapter, and as concurrent therewith, any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter shall be liable to a penalty of two hundred dollars, to be recovered by any person who has filed any such label, trademark, term or design.

**3982. Use of private marks or labels to defraud, misdemeanor.**—If any person shall knowingly and willfully forge or counterfeit, or cause or pro-

cure to be forged or counterfeited, the private mark, tokens, stamps or labels of any mechanic, manufacturer or other person, being a resident of the United States, with intent to deceive and defraud the purchasers, mechanics, or manufacturers of any goods, wares or merchandise whatsoever, upon conviction thereof he shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars and not exceeding one thousand dollars, or by imprisonment of not less than thirty days or more than five years, or both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

**3983. Selling goods with forged marks or labels, misdemeanor.**—If any person shall vend any goods, wares or merchandise having thereon any forged or counterfeited marks, tokens, stamps or labels purporting to be the marks, tokens, stamps or labels of any person being a resident of the United States, knowing the same at the time of the purchase thereof by him to be forged or counterfeited, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and punished by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, or by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars, or by both fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

**3984. Misbranding sacks to defraud, misdemeanor.**—If any person shall knowingly use the mark or brand of any other person on any sack, or shall knowingly impress on any sack the mark or brand of another person, with intent to defraud or for the purpose of enhancing the value of his own property, the person so offending shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and punished as if convicted of larceny.

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